

We all need PARKS



Los Angeles Countywide Comprehensive Park & Recreation Needs Assessment

What is the Park Needs Assessment?

The County of Los Angeles is initiating a Countywide assessment of the need for parks and recreation in both cities and unincorporated areas. The goal of the Park Needs Assessment is to engage all communities within the County in a collaborative process to gather data and input for future decision-making on parks and recreation. The Park Needs Assessment will increase our understanding of existing park and recreation assets, and help us to determine how to improve, expand, and make them more accessible. Specifically, the final report will determine planning areas and will identify, prioritize, and outline costs for potential park projects.

Why complete an assessment?

- The assessment will result in a visionary list of projects and cost estimates, in order of priority, for each Planning Area.
- It will identify future opportunities for parks and recreation throughout the County by Planning Area.
- The Park Needs Assessment will assist cities and unincorporated areas in future park planning.
- The Park Needs Assessment may be used as a guide for potential development of future funding mechanisms.
- Results could also be used to leverage Federal and State resources, and guide local funding decisions.

Who will be involved?

- You! All communities within the County, including cities and unincorporated areas.
- A Steering Committee comprised of:
 - » Supervisorial Districts
 - » Councils of Government (COG)
 - » Community-Based Organizations
 - » Community Members
 - » County Departments and Partnering Agencies
- Local agencies and community-based organizations will be trained to hold community engagement events in each Planning Area to determine Park and Recreation needs and priorities.
- A Technical Advisory Committee will provide review of the GIS and mapping methodology.
- A Consultant Team led by PlaceWorks, with support from DakeLuna Consultants and David Taussig & Associates will facilitate the process and prepare the Park Needs Assessment.

How will planning areas be determined?

- The Park Needs Assessment will be organized around Planning Areas, which will be used to identify community-specific needs, and determine priority projects.
- The Steering Committee, with support from the consultant team, will develop criteria to identify Planning Areas.

What standards will be used to determine need?

- The Steering Committee will establish a set of Park and Recreation standards to compare needs across the entire County.
- This set of standards will be used for the Park Needs Assessment, but is not intended to replace municipal Park and Recreation standards.

What will be included in the analysis?

- City and County parks including community parks, neighborhood parks, pocket parks and tot lots
- City and County recreational facilities including swimming pools, recreation centers, gyms, and skate parks
- Regional parks
- School recreation facilities with joint use agreements
- Trail corridors along flood control channels
- Separately owned public trail rights-of-way outside of parks

What will not be included in the analysis?

- Golf courses
- Cemeteries
- Plazas and public art installations
- Beaches
- Schools (except recreation facilities with joint use agreements)

When will the assessment occur?

- The Park Needs Assessment will be conducted and completed over 15 months, between March 2015 & May 2016.



For more information, contact:

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